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PLAN TO INCREASE FEMALE LABOR FORCE

To increase production, especially in the mining and heavy industries, the Hungarian government has taken steps to insure the increased utilization of the female population in the nation's economic life. It is planned to fill approximately one half of all positions with women; future openings in administration, in the professions, and in light industry will be filled 80 percent with women.

Ab vict issued by the Hungarian Council of Ministers states that the women of Hungary do not participate to their full ability in the rebuilding of their country. In addition to the immediate employment of women in various occupations, it has been announced that their training for jobs in light and heavy industry will be intensified. More than ever, women will be encouraged to seek higher education.

It is further stated in the edict that insofar as possible married women will be employed near their place of residence. Children will be placed in day nurseries, some of which will be at the mother's place of employment. Also to facilitate the lot of the working woman, it is planned to extend business hours of stores to enable women to shop after work. Feeding facilities for families in communal kitchens will also be expanded

Justification for this edict is contained in the statement that the growth of the female labor force will permit more males to transfer to the heavy industries, to mining, and to the army. During its spring session, the Hungarian parliament resolved to fulfill the current Five-Year Plan in 4 years, and at the same time raised the plan requirements. In connection with this resolution, it was planned to create 62,000 new openings in the heavy industries. Despite attempts to recruit the needed workers from the ranks of agriculture, and despite bonuses offered to new employees, only 20,000 workers have reported thus far. Therefore, the Hungarian government felt obliged to take steps contrary to its usual policy of recruit for the heavy industries from agriculture alone. The government is forced to draw on manpower from all branches of industry to supply the need of the heavy industries, and to fill the resulting vacancies with women.

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